

TRIP REPORT

VIII International Conference on AIDS/III STD World Congress

**Amsterdam, The Netherlands
July 19 - 24, 1992**

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John Snow, Inc.

VIII International Conference on AIDS/III World Congress: Trip Report

Purpose

Glenn Wasek and Suzanne Thomas attended the VIII International Conference on AIDS for the purpose of presenting a poster session entitled "National AIDS Control Policy Planning for Condom Requirements Forecasting." (The abstract is found as Attachment One.)

Activities

- A. The consultants prepared a poster session as well as handouts that were distributed at the session (Attachment Two). The poster presented two models as follow:
1. A diagram of the logistics cycle illustrated the importance of timely planning for inclusion of condom supply in the management cycle. The source of condom supply is often not addressed until late in the implementation of specific plans, leading to insufficient supply.
 2. A population segmentation methodology illustrated how to estimate requirements for specified target groups about which user characteristic information is collected. This model was demonstrated through an easy to use software program developed by FPLM.

Attendance at the session was extremely light. The authors feel that this was due to the remote location of the session in an extremely large conference hall, the lack of understanding about what is required to ensure adequate condom supply to meet programmatic needs, and the lack, and relatively low status, of program staff that are assigned to logistics issues. Therefore, participants interested in these types of sessions are few.

B. Discussions

The consultants had discussions with various programmatic and other staff and consultants from cooperating and international donor agencies. These discussions covered follow-up work related to FPLM activities, collaborative efforts with WHO/GPA, and up-coming work through the AIDSCAP project.

An additional topic of discussion with several of the participants was that of programmatic management, and how management issues, such as logistics, could be better addressed at future conferences. Though poster sessions introduce topics, there is not an opportunity for much exchange between various parties. Therefore, we felt that one avenue that we will explore with the 1993 Berlin conference organizers is the possibility of holding a satellite session devoted to management issues in the days prior to the main conference.

C. Presentations

Sessions attended included oral presentations, posters, evening mini-courses and roundtable discussions. Topics included donor collaboration, AIDS orphans, condom promotion and use, drug and other substance use/abuse and risk behaviors, and STD case management. Some general conclusions that we made about information presented at these sessions are that:

- many AIDS interventions -- condoms, STD pharmaceuticals, STD/HIV diagnostics, care -- are dependent on functioning logistics systems. Yet the knowledge of logistics is relatively unknown to AIDS Prevention Program planners and managers.
- collaboration between various groups, including donors, NGO's, local implementing agencies and individuals, though improving, is difficult;
- there is frustration on the part of both developing and developed country program staff as to the level of behavior change that has been realized and sustained in many activities, though there is progress in many areas;
- there is general agreement that the social aspects that foster the spread of AIDS must be addressed if we are to make progress in slowing the epidemic;
- management and implementation issues are necessary and difficult to address.

D. Follow-Up

As attendance at the poster session presented by FPLM was so light, we feel it necessary to continue to highlight the importance of logistics management issues at the international level. Therefore, the topic of developing a satellite session on management issues, with logistics to be emphasized, has been raised with the 1993 conference organizers, and we are in the process of developing a concept paper for the organizers. Though final decisions need to be made regarding topics, and those chosen will be partially determined by the organizers, we believe that such a satellite session should address:

- activity planning;
- budgeting for activities;
- logistics and management information systems;
- accounting and internal controls; and
- evaluation.

ATTACHMENT ONE

ABSTRACT: NATIONAL AIDS CONTROL POLICY PLANNING FOR CONDOM
REQUIREMENTS FORECASTING

Abstract Form

A World United Against AIDS

VIII International Conference on AIDS/III STD World Congress

Amsterdam, the Netherlands 19-24 July 1992

Secretariat Space RA _____ Date Received _____ Abstract # _____

Abstracts must be submitted on this form and accompanied by ten (10) photocopies.

NATIONAL AIDS CONTROL POLICY PLANNING
FOR CONDOM REQUIREMENTS FORECASTING. Wasek, Glenn K. * **;
Thomas, Suzanne ** *Harvard School of Public Health, Boston,
MA. USA ; ** John Snow, Inc. FPLM Project, Rosslyn, VA. USA

Issue/Problem : Developing condom requirements estimates within the policy planning cycle is essential for National Programs yet is often neglected by policy-makers. Integrating a forecasting method into the policy planning cycle is critical for condom procurement, distribution, and availability for prevention and control activities.

Description of Project : This project was financed by USAID Family Planning Logistics Management Project. It examined current practices of condom requirements estimation and procurement. The project found that condom requirements are often considered too late in the policy planning cycle to assure an adequate condom supply. A review of current condom requirements estimation methods found reliance on disbursement data which is often an inaccurate measure of population need and demand for condoms. Inaccurate estimates lead to under- or over-supply situations at all levels of the condom distribution system, thereby impeding prevention and control efforts. Two practical models were developed for use by National planners: 1) A Policy Planning Model which integrates a condom requirements and procurement cycle, and 2) A new Condom Requirements Estimation Model more reliable and sensitive to population segment differences in condom acceptance and use.

Results : Comparison of data from most condom requirements estimation methods shows a tendency to under-estimate condom needs of population segments at high risk of HIV and over-estimate general population demand for condoms. The new models developed in this project increase the accuracy of condom requirements estimation and service delivery planning. Simulation models will be displayed.

Lessons Learned: Improvement of the condom supply for prevention/control efforts.

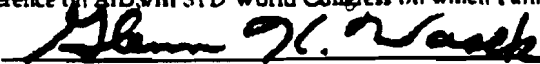
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Boston, MA. USA; Telephone 617-482-9485; FAX 617-482-0617

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Abstracts received after 2 March 1992 will not be considered

1. Presentation preference (check one): Oral presentation _____ Poster presentation X ; 2. Indicate below two choices for track and category codes (e.g., A10, A15 or D2, D25) in which you believe your abstract should be classified. See "Categories for Abstract Submission" on page vi or on the other side of this form for codes. *Choice 1:* Track/Category (letter and number) D29 ; *Choice 2:* Track/Category (letter and number) D25 ; 3. Rule of One Statement: I certify that this is the only abstract I have submitted to the VIII International Conference on AIDS/III STD World Congress on which I am the presenting author.

Presenting Author's Signature


Print Presenting Author's Full Name Glenn K. Wasek

Air Mail or Express Mail this original Abstract Form, with ten (10) photocopies, and the original Abstract Information Form, with one (1) photocopy, in the provided self-addressed orange envelope to: VIII International Conference on AIDS/III STD World Congress, Abstract and Registration Administration, CONGREX Holland BV, P.O. Box 302, 1000 AH Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Overnight Mail Delivery Address: VIII International Conference on AIDS/III STD World Congress, Abstract and Registration Administration, CONGREX Holland BV, Keizersgracht 782, 1017 EC Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

For presenters use: A _____ R _____ Score _____ Oral _____ Poster _____ Publish _____ International Merit _____

Comments: _____

ATTACHMENT TWO

**POLICY PLANNING AND FORECASTING CONDOM NEEDS
FOR HIV/STD PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

POLICY PLANNING AND FORECASTING CONDOM NEEDS FOR HIV/STD PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Glenn K. Wasek and Suzanne C. Thomas

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INTRODUCTION:

This work is financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development. This project examines condom requirements estimation for STD/HIV prevention activities.

The Family Planning Logistics Management Project (FPLM) also provides technical assistance in forecasting, procurement, distribution and quality control in over thirty countries worldwide.

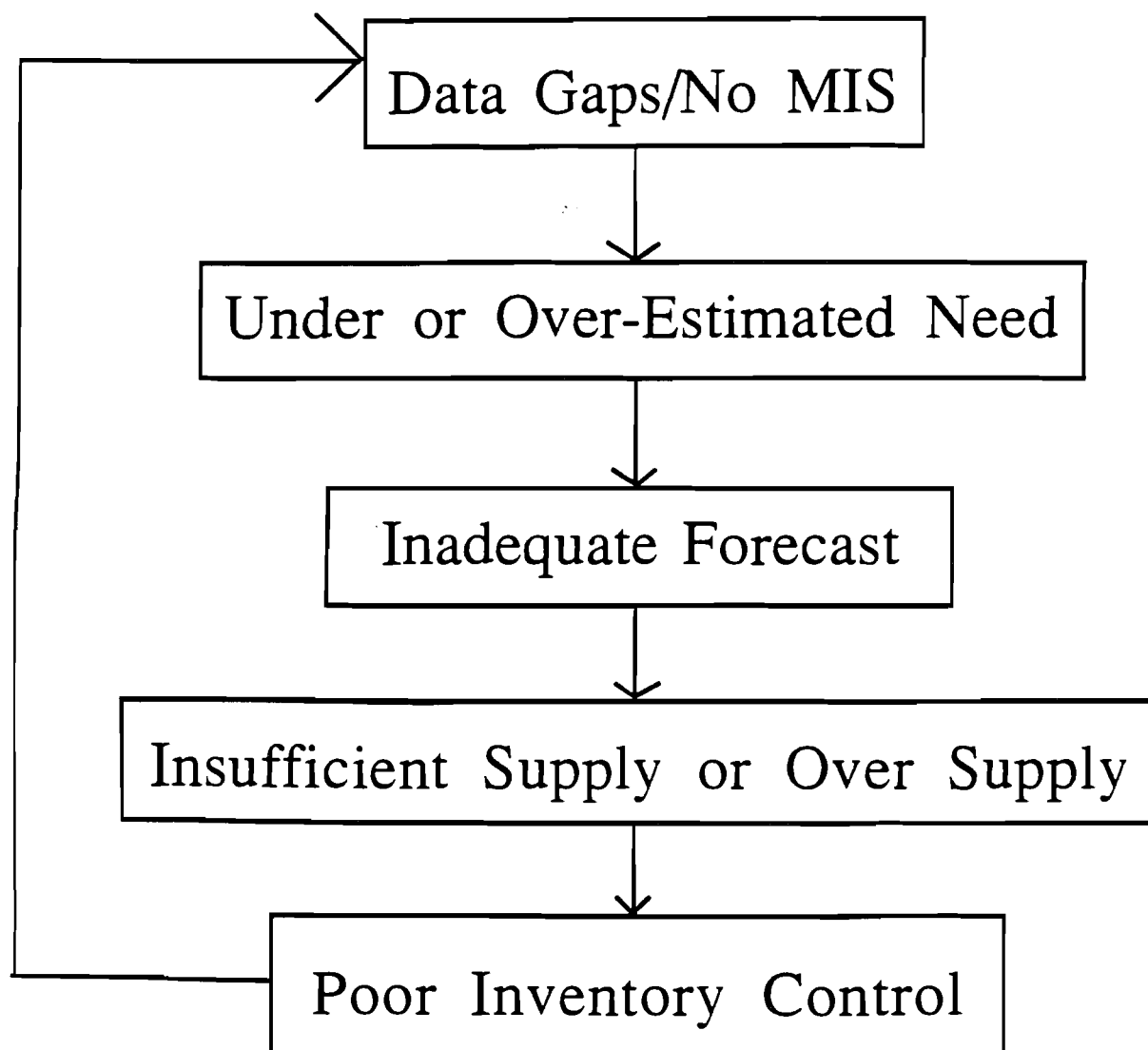
METHODS:

Logistic systems analysis, off-take data analysis, and field-level operations research.

FINDINGS/LESSONS LEARNED:

- Condom requirements are often considered too late in the planning cycle.
- Resources for managing and distributing supplies are often neglected.
- Over-estimates of general population requirements and under-estimates of requirements of groups at high risk of STD/HIV can occur simultaneously.

A cycle of inadequate supply is created through a sequence of problems as shown by the following diagram.



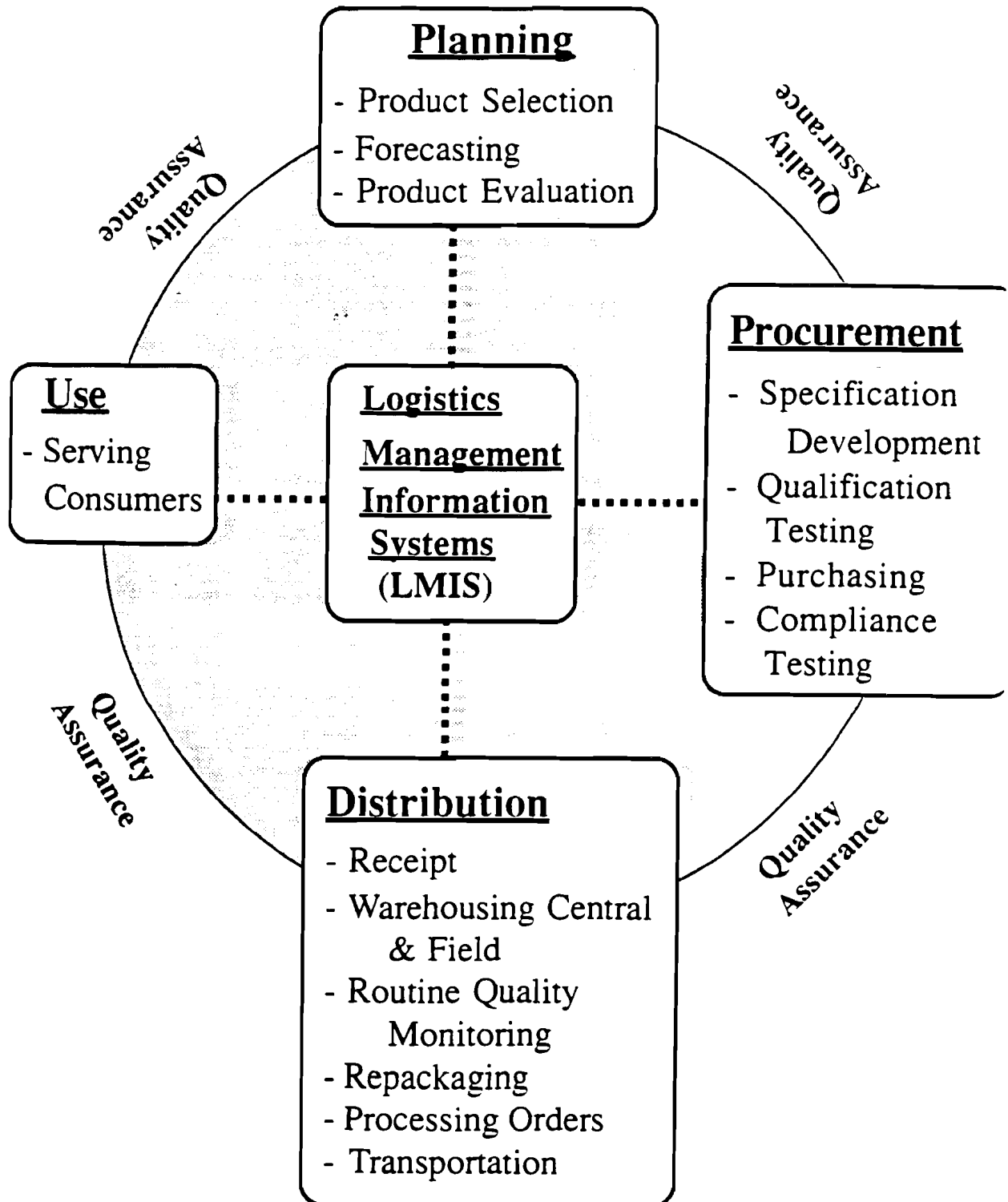
CONCLUSIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. National AIDS Prevention and Control Programs incorporate the condom logistics cycle in policy planning (Model 1).
2. In forecasting condom needs, programs consider: A) population segmentation techniques and, B) differential behavioral characteristics of segments related to condom use. The Forecasting Condom Supply (FOCUS) model uses these methods to achieve greater precision (Model 2).
3. National AIDS prevention and control programs develop applied research programs to provide behavioral data regularly. This is useful for condom requirements forecasting, logistics management, and evaluation.

Model 1

THE LOGISTICS CYCLE IN POLICY PLANNING



FORECASTING CONDOM SUPPLY (FOCUS) MODEL:

VARIABLES:

- a. Population Segment Size
- b. Segment Member Year of Protection (SYP)
- c. Condom Prevalence Rate
- d. Consistency Use Rate
- e. Condom Wastage Rate

CALCULATIONS:

Total Potential Need = $a * b$

Total Potential Demand = $a * b * c$

Total Potential/Actual Consumption
= $a * b * c * d$

For condom requirements, add buffer stock, add wastage factor, subtract stock-on-hand at end-of-year.